(a) whether representations from States including Kerala have been received for setting up of IITs in the respective States;

(b) if so, the details of the States who have submitted their requests in this regard;

(c) the details of the location chosen for setting up new IITs in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the reasons for rejection of requests along with the criteria adopted for the setting up of IITs and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The States which have submitted requests for setting up of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) include Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Orissa, Punjab, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Based on the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (SAC-PM), three new IITs have been set up, one each in the States of Rajasthan, Bihar (Patna) and Andhra Pradesh (Hyderabad). Further, as a sequel to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's speech on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Country's Independence Day, five more new IITs have been established after taking into consideration the requests from various State Governments and other relevant factors such as existing regional distribution of Central Educational Institutions in the country, etc. These have been set up in Gujarat (Gandhinagar), Himachal Pradesh (Mandi), Madhya Pradesh (Indore), Orissa (Bhubaneswar) and Punjab (Ropar).

Standards of Physics books of NCERT

†210. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is of the opinion that the standard of NCERT books and Government books on science (Physics), is not upto the mark;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government to a statement of a professor of IIT, Kanpur that 80 per cent methods of Physics taught between class 6th and 12th, are not correct:

(d) whether Government is going to constitute a committee to examine the methods taught in the books of Physics; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed new textbooks in Science for Classes VI to XII through a Textbook Development Committee headed by an eminent physicist and including subject experts, teacher educators and practicing teachers. NCERT has not received any adverse comment about Physics textbooks.

(c) Government is not aware of any such statement.

(d) There is no such proposal.

(e) Does not arise.

Standard of primary schools

†211. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite spending crores of rupees on primary schools by Government, the standard of these schools has not improved;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is making any plan to improve the standard of Government primary schools; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Government is committed to universalisati on of elementary education and has taken significant steps to enhance access, retention and quality through its flagship Programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Under SSA, (i) 1.47 lakh primary schools have been opened across the country, (ii) 1.23 lakh primary schools have been upgraded to have upper primary classes, (iii) 9.86 lakh teachers have been recruited, (iv) children are provided free textbooks, (v) teacher are provided periodic in-service training, (vi) Mid-day meal is provided to all children in classes 1-8 in Government and Government aided schools. These interventions have contributed to following improvement at primary and elementary level as under:

Item	2001-02		2006-07	
	Primary Level	Elementary Level	Primary Level	Elementary Level
Reduction in drop-out rates	39.03	54.60	25.43	46.03
Improvement in Gross Enrolment Ratio	96.3	82.35	111.24	96.92
Improvement in Gender Parity Index	0.83	0.81	0.94	0.93

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi